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I, JULIE BILLINGSLEY, TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION SUPPORT AND
SALES hereby certify that annexed is a true copy of the Provisional specification
in connection with Application No. 2002951973 for a patent by NEIL
BERNARD MCLAUGHLIN as filed on 11 October 2002.



WITNESS my hand this
Twenty-fourth day of October 2003

J. Billingsley

JULIE BILLINGSLEY
TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION
SUPPORT AND SALES

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TRAM

Trapeze Rail Access Module

The TRAM system is designed to fit onto the top of road tanker trucks, ISO tank containers, railway cars, car transporters, cattle trucks, buildings under construction or any where else that has to be accessed by any person or employee.

The unique features of the TRAM system permit access to places where it is impossible or impractical to install a handrail. When the user is wearing the easy use, especially dedicated safety belt, with both of the safety straps attached to the TRAM he can walk in complete security and carry out tasks that, without the TRAM system, would be exceedingly dangerous.

The TRAM system is designed and tested, in accord with Australian and EU standards and complies with all the requirements stated therein for a fully compliant restraint device.



Neil McLaughlin Customer ID # 6910010838

A Support Apparatus

This invention relates to a support apparatus.

This invention has particular, but not exclusive application to a support apparatus that is adapted to support, provide support for a person while they move about on the top of vehicles, such as an upper part of a storage vessel of a vehicle that is designed to carry oil or other liquid in bulk, and wherein reference will be made to same. However, it will be appreciated that the invention may be used in other applications where it is desirable to provide support for persons engaged in activities that could result in them suffering a fall and injuring themselves, such as working on elevated structures, including buildings and bridges, or on moving structures, such as a pitching deck of a ship.

Most vehicles that are used to transport oil and other liquids in bulk include an elongate storage vessel having a generally elliptical shaped transverse cross-section and a narrow, often arcuate, roof. Typically the storage vessel includes at least one inlet that is formed in the roof and wherein from time to time it is necessary, whether this be for maintenance or for filling the vessel, for persons to access this opening. Because of the narrowness the roof and/or it's arcuate shape, walking and working on the roof can be quite dangerous, particularly if the roof's surface is wet or covered with spilt liquid.

In order to obtain access to the inlet, there is usually provided a ladder that is mounted on either a side or end wall of the storage vessel.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a support apparatus that ameliorates at least some of the potential hazards associated with walking and/or working on the roof of a storage vessel of a motor vehicle that is designed to carry oil and other liquids in bulk.

With the foregoing in view, this invention in one aspect relates to a support apparatus including:

- an elongate guide;

- a post having a base portion that is adapted to engage the guide, the base portion being adapted to move along the guide while remaining engaged therewith, and

- a handle connected to an upper portion of the post which a user may grasp hold of using their hand for support and/or to move the post along the guide.

In another aspect, this invention relates to a structure having a roof section along which a person proposes to walk, said structure including:

- an elongate guide that is connected to the roof section;

- a post having a base portion that is adapted to engage the guide, the base portion being adapted to move along the guide while remaining engaged therewith, and

(3)

Neil McLaughlin Customer ID # 6910010838

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please excuse the way I have laid out the application, as I wanted to get patent protection ASAP. I shall furnish you with more information and detailed engineering drawings in the very near future.

Best regards
Neil McLaughlin.

a handle connected to an upper portion of the post which the person may grasp hold of using their hand for support and/or to move the post along the guide while walking on the roof. Preferably the structure includes a storage vessel which may be mounted on, or capable of attachment to a vehicle.

The guide, in one embodiment, may include a channel and wherein the base portion may include an insert that is locatable within said channel. The internal cross-sectional shape of the guide and the external cross-sectional shape of the insert may be complimentary and may be designed so that the insert can not be withdrawn from the channel from above. For example, both the channel and the insert may be "T" or "L" shaped.

In one embodiment, the channel may be formed in a part of the structure, such as the roof. However it will be appreciated that the channel may be part of a member that is adapted for attachment to the structure, and wherein multiple members may be arranged end to end so as to form an elongate guide.

Alternatively, the guide may include or incorporate a rail along which the base portion may travel. The rail may have any suitable shape. However, it is



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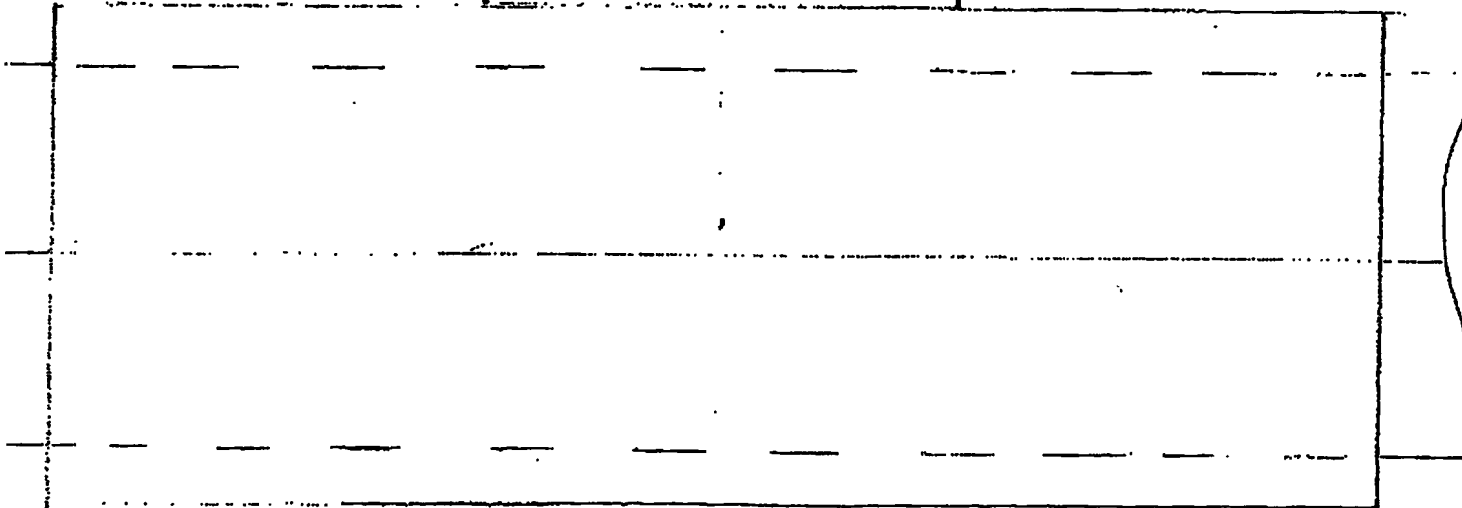
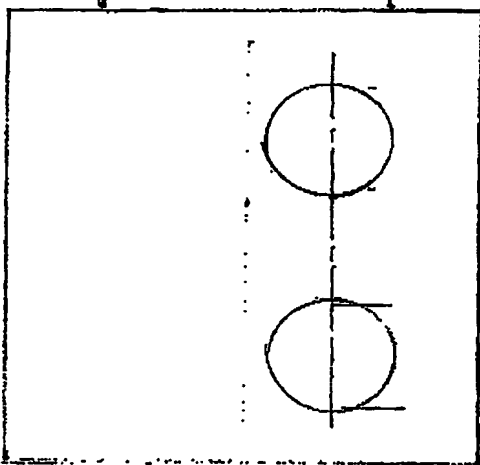
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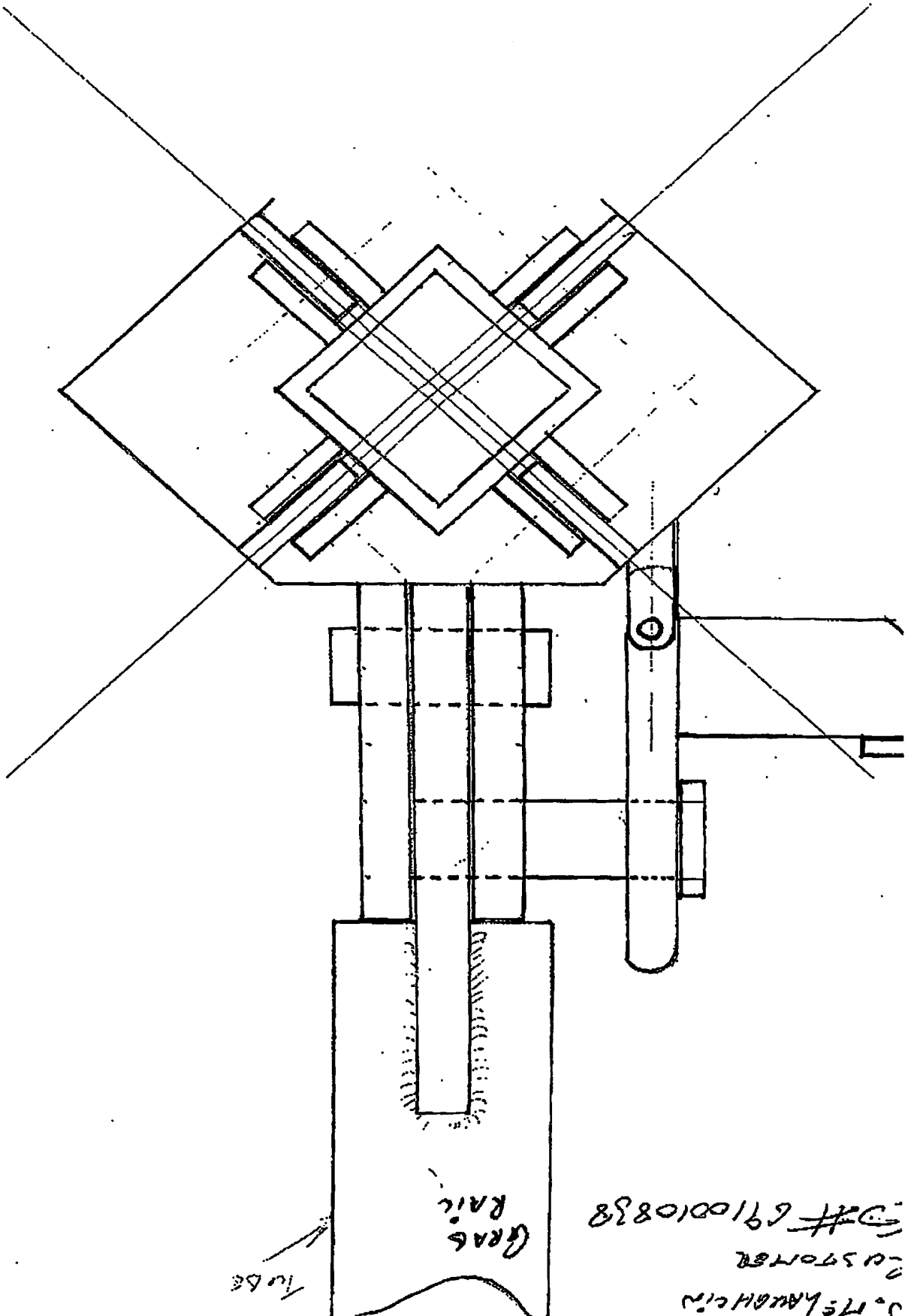
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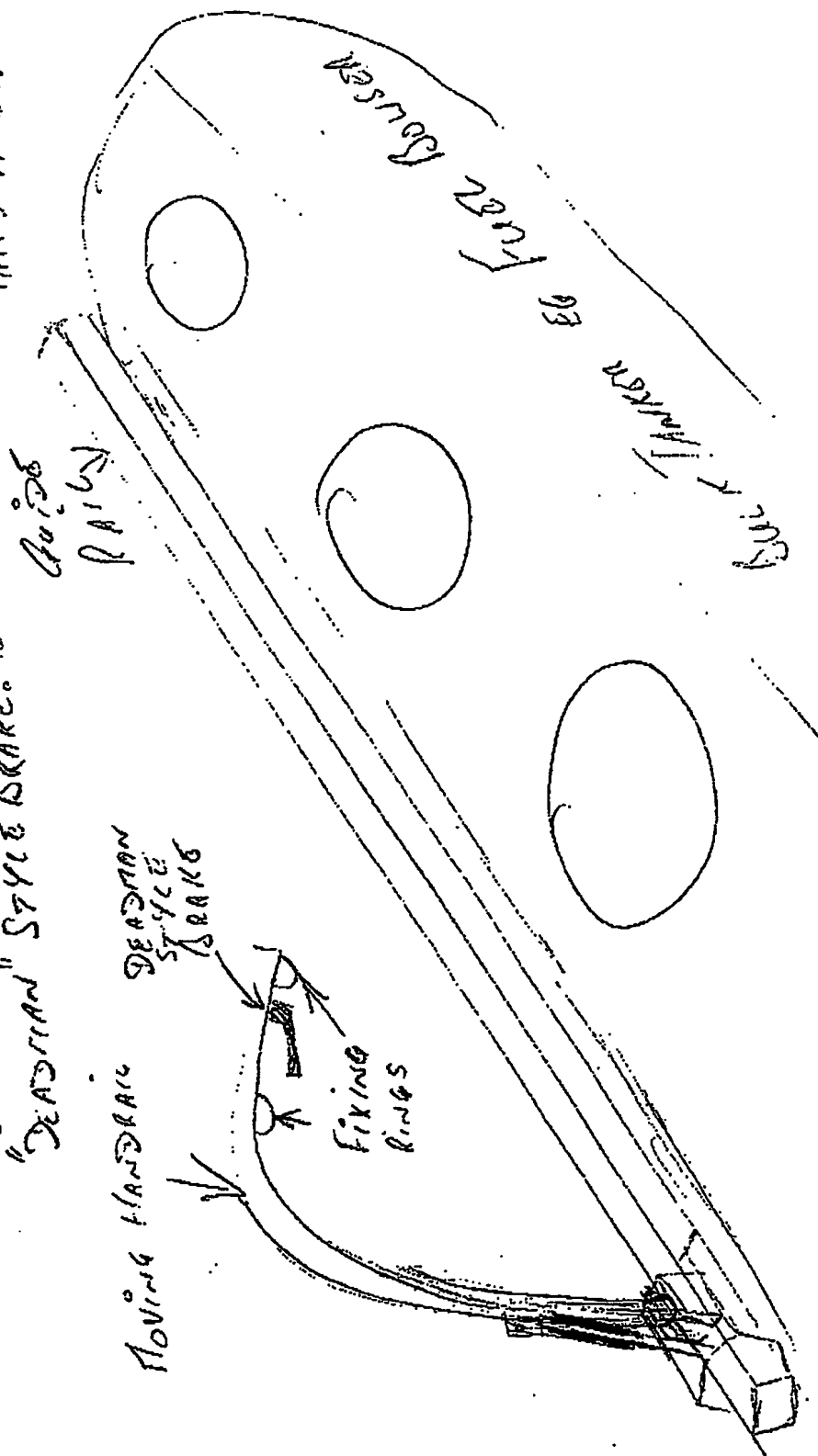
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THE TRAM SYSTEM IS FIXED TO THE TOP OF A
BUCK TANKER AND ALLOWS THE USER TO WALK
ALONG THE TOP OF THE TANKER, WITH A MOVING
HANDRAIL FOR SECURITY. THE USER WEARS A

SPECIAL HARNESS WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THE MOVING
HANDRAIL BY THE 2 FIXING RINGS. THE MOVING HANDRAIL
MOVES ALONG THE GUIDE RAIL. THE MOVING HANDRAIL ALSO HAS A
DOWN WHEN NOT IN USE. THE MOVING HANDRAIL WHEN
DOWN WHEN NOT IN USE. IT IS AN ALL TIME EXERCISE WHEN
"DEADMAN" STYLE BRAKE. IF IT IS ON ALL THE TIME EXERCISE WHEN
PULLS IT UP.



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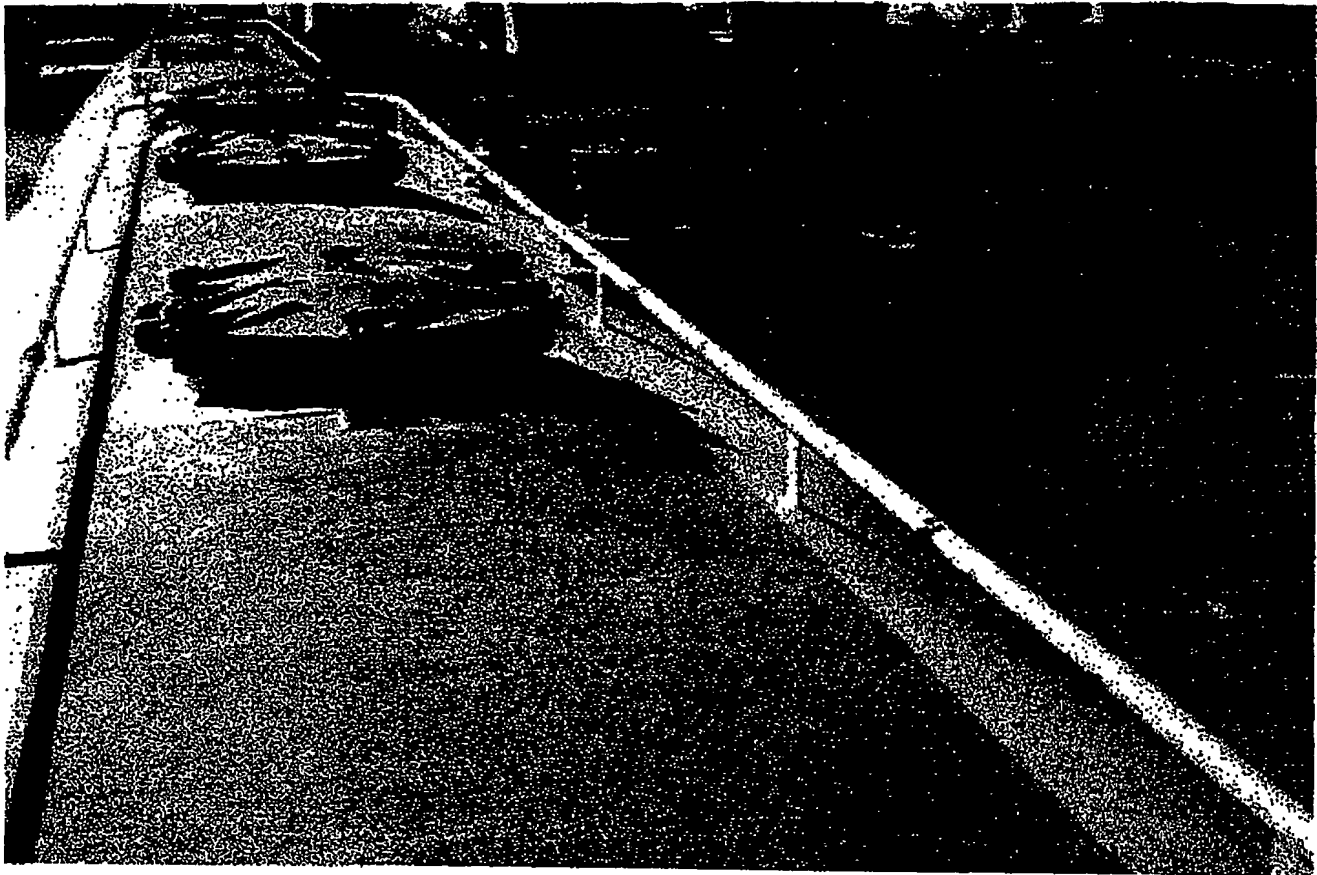
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7



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